

COSELEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Reports



OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

AND

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

ON THE

Public Health Services

FOR THE YEAR

1941.

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Printed by Order of the Council.

COMMITTEES.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Consisting of all Members of the Council.

Chairman : COUNCILLOR G. W. H. TURTON.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Consisting of all Members of the Council.

Councillor	Allen	Councillor	Hill
**	Bayliss	„	Hingley
„	Bennett	„	Holden
„	Cox	„	Millington
„	Elwell	„	Mobberley
„	Flavell	„	Norton
„	Gough	„	Pritchett
*	Grange	„	Pugh
„	Griffiths	„	Smout
„	Hartland	„	Turton
„	Higgins	„	Dr. Waddell
	Mesdames Jones, Smallman and Smallman.		

* Councillor J. Grange - died March, 1941.

** Councillor P. C. Bennett - elected April, 1941.

Chairman : COUNCILLOR G. W. H. TURTON.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE.

Consisting of all Members of the Council.

Chairman : COUNCILLOR J. HARTLAND.

SEWERAGE COMMITTEE.

Consisting of all Members of the Council.

Chairman : COUNCILLOR E. ALLEN.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health, Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare, School Medical Officer—

ALEXANDER J. WATT, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Factories—

GEORGE H. PARKES, M.I.H., C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Cleansing Superintendent, Inspector of Canal Boats—

FREDERICK E. TOON.

Additional Sanitary Inspector—

IRVINE FIELDHOUSE, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.—Resigned 31/12/40

WILLIAM T. BEBB, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A.—Appointed 18/8/41

Inspector of Shops—

FREDERICK E. TOON.

Health Visitors—

TRYPHENA NICHOLSON, C.M.B., R.S.I., S.R.N.

MARGARET GIBSON, C.M.B., S.C.M.

Clerk—

MISS E. GRAINGER.

PART-TIME OFFICERS.

Ante-Natal Clinic—

DR. J. A. NAGLE, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

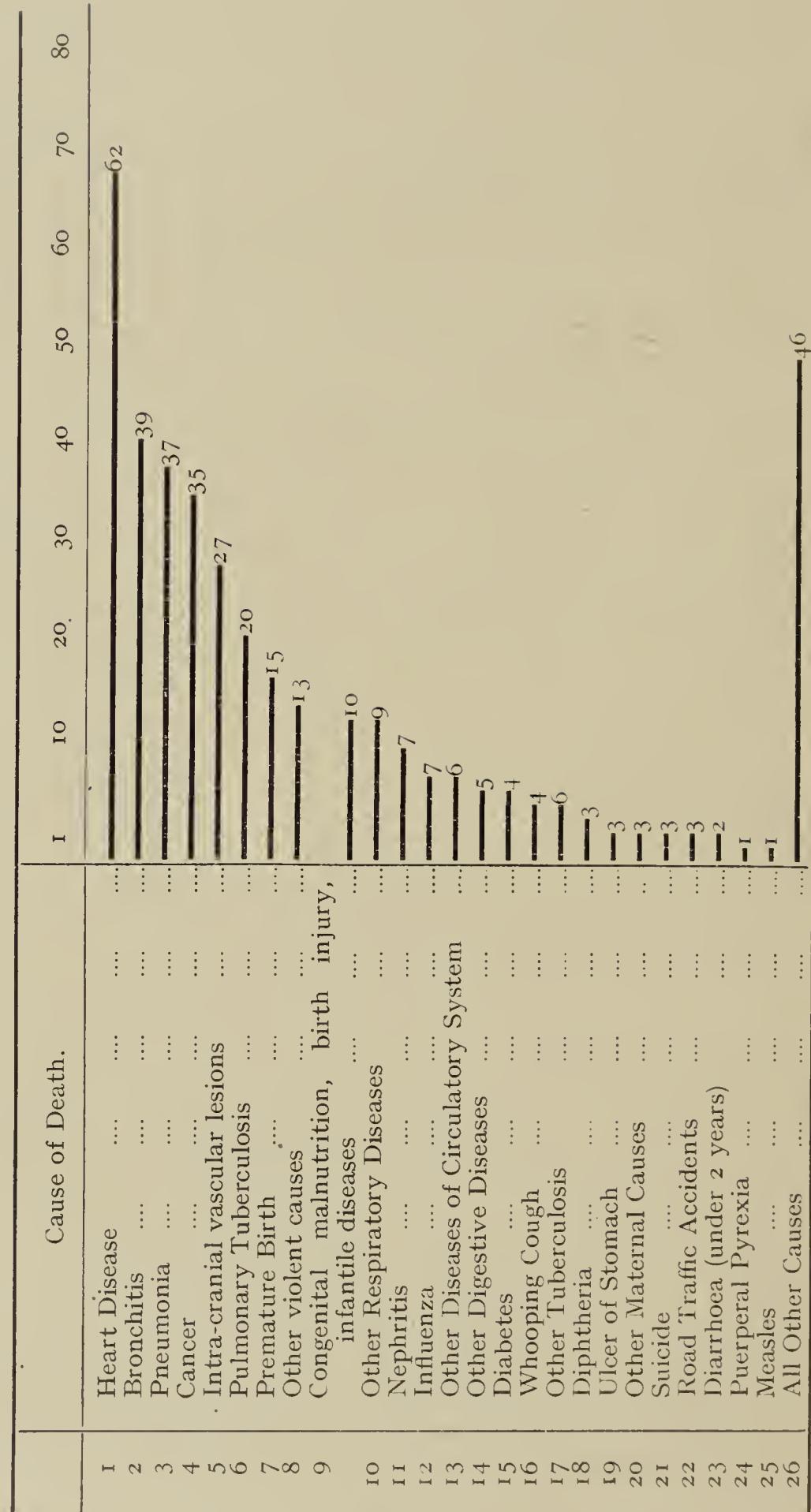
Dental Clinic—

W. G. WEBSTER, L.D.S., ENG.

C. H. MERRY, L.D.S., B'HAM.

B. H. MOORE, L.D.S., B'HAM.

CHART showing Principal Causes of Death in Coseley in 1941.



COSELEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1941.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Coseley Urban District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present the following brief report on the Coseley Health Services for the Year 1941.

Most of the statistical Tables which have appeared in previous reports are included and these enable one to compare the figures given with those of the preceding years.

It will be noted that the Population is now 30,500. The Birth Rate was 19.27. In 1940 the Rate was 20.22. The Death Rate was also lower ; the figures being 12.19 for 1941 and 14.92 for 1940. I regret to have to record an Infantile Mortality Rate of 91.06 which compares very unfavourably with the figure 56.10 for the previous year. It has been noted that a large proportion of the infant deaths occurred shortly after birth and were due to inanition. This suggests maternal debility and no doubt the present abnormal conditions of life place an additional strain on the resources of expectant mothers. There were also 4 Maternal Deaths which gives a rate of 6.51 when compared with the Rate of 1.57 for the previous year. The Diarrhoea and Enteritis Death Rate was 3.4 ; the rate for 1940 was 9.90.

As in 1940 there were 3 deaths from Diphtheria, and 91 cases were notified. In 1940 the number notified was 77. There were 63 cases of Scarlet Fever and no death. Fifty-six cases were notified in 1940. There were 4 deaths amongst the 126 cases of Whooping Cough and one death in 398 cases of Measles.

Other comments will appear under the appropriate headings in the course of the Report, and therefore in conclusion I should again like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Maternity and Child Welfare and Health Committees for their support. I gratefully acknowledge the loyal and efficient assistance I have had from all my colleagues in the Health Department, and I wish to thank the Officials of other Departments for their co-operation.

Our best thanks are due to the Medical Officers and Staffs of the Isolation Hospitals, and to the Doctors and Staffs of the Hospitals and Tuberculosis Dispensaries at Wolverhampton and Dudley. The County Bacteriological and Chemical Laboratories gave excellent service to the District and I wish to return thanks to the Officials of both Departments.

We have had the valuable co-operation of the Medical Practitioners of the Area and I give them my grateful thanks for their continued assistance to the Health Department.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ALEXANDER J. WATT.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.

	Total	Males	Females	Birthrate per 1,000 estimated population
Live—Legitimate	577	301	276	18.91
Illegitimate	11	3	8	.36
				Rate per 1,000 "Live" and "Still" Births.
Still—Legitimate	19	12	7	30.94
Illegitimate	1	1	—	1.64
" Still " Birthrate per 1,000 population	—	—	—	0.65

Deaths.

	Total	Males	Females	Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population.
	372	204	168	12.19
				Rate per 1,000 "Live" and "Still" Deaths.
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	1	1.62
,, ,, Other,, Causes	—	—	3	4.88
DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR.				
All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	54	—	—	91.06
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	—	—	52	89.34
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	—	—	2	181.8
				Per 1,000 estimated population.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	—	—	4	0.13
,, ,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	—	—	2	0.06
Deaths and Death Rate from Pulmonary				
		Tuberculosis	20	0.65
,, ,, ,, ,, Pneumonia	—	—	37	1.21
,, ,, ,, ,, Influenza	—	—	7	0.22
,, ,, ,, ,, Cancer	—	—	35	1.11
,, ,, ,, ,, Violence	—	—	19	0.62

REVIEW OF VITAL STATISTICS.

The reader is referred to the statistical Tables at the end of the report and also to the Chart on page 4 where an outline is given of the principal causes of death.

Heart Disease accounted for 62 deaths as compared with 54 in the previous year. There were 37 deaths from Pneumonia. This compares unfavourably with the figure of 17 for 1940. Cancer caused 35 deaths. There were 41 deaths from this disease in 1940. There were 27 deaths from cerebral haemorrhage. This is identical with the number for the previous year. Violence was responsible for 16 deaths.

General Provision of Health Services.

A list of the Council's Officials will be found on page 3. Mr. Bebb, additional Sanitary Inspector took up duty on the 1st. September, and therefore the whole work of the Sanitary Department fell on the Senior Inspector during the first nine months of the year.

Laboratory Facilities.

All specimens for bacteriological and chemical analysis were sent to the County Laboratory at Stafford, and the following reports were obtained.

DISEASE.	RESULTS.		TOTALS.
	Negative.	Positive.	
Diphtheria	211	53	264
Tuberculosis	34	10	44
Typhoid Fever	1	—	1

Home Nursing and Ambulance Facilities.

These remained the same as in 1940.

Clinic and Treatment Services.

All services were centred at the Bayer Hall Clinic.

Maternity Services.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

First Attendances	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	325
Total Attendances	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,165
No of cases referred for special examination	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25
No. of cases admitted to Hospital	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16

HEALTH VISITING.

No. of visits to children under one year :—

First Visits	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	554
Total Visits	4,060

No. of visits to children between one and five years :—

Total Visits	5,820
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CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.

Total Attendances at Centre during year :—

(1) By children under 1 year of age	4,473
(2) By children between 1—5 years of age	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	852

Total number of children who attended the Centre for the first time during the year, and who, on the date of their first attendance were :—

(1) Under 1 year of age	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	342
Percentage of notified births	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	61.00
(2) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	38

Total number of children who attended at the Centre during the year, and who, at the end of the year were :—

Under 1 year of age	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	287
Between 1 and 5 years	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	332

Dr. Nagle, Registrar, Women's Hospital conducted the Ante-Natal Clinic. The attendances were satisfactory and there is evidence that this Clinic will have to be extended to more than one session per week. I hope to place details before the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee as soon as it seems possible to arrange an extra session. This Clinic is well appreciated by the mothers who attend. Ready treatment is available for abnormal cases and our patients obtain immediate admission to the Women's Hospital when necessary.

Dental Treatment.

Expectant, Nursing Mothers and Children under the age of 5 obtained treatment as outlined below.

	Women.	Children.	Total.
No. recommended for treatment	51	52	103
No. who attended for treatment	22	41	61
Percentage of acceptances	41.13	78.84	59.22
No. of extractions under local Anaesthesia	19	4	23
No. of extractions under Gas Anaes- thesia	92	104	196
No. of fillings	—	3	3
No. of dressings	—	57	57

Free Milk Scheme.

Few applications were received for free milk. Dried milk was granted in 3 cases.

Voluntary Workers.

I should like to offer our best thanks to those ladies who so kindly assisted at the Welfare Centre during the year, and often at much inconvenience to themselves. Owing to the fact that only two Nurses were available to deal with the weighing of the children, sales of food, clerical work etc. we could not have managed without their help.

Water Supply and Drainage.

No change to note.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The work of the Cleansing Department was under the control of Mr. Toon, Cleansing Superintendent, who in addition undertook the onerous duties of Salvage Officer.

THE
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

FOR THE YEAR 1941.

*To the Chairman and Members
of the Health Committee.
Coseley Urban District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my report on the sanitary administration of the District for the year 1941. In compliance with the instructions from the Ministry of Health the report has been curtailed.

Inspections.

The total number of visits paid of all types totalled 4,697, the number of visits made in connection with the following-up notices and works-in-progress numbered 720.

Complaints.

The total number of complaints of all kinds received during the year was 305 as against 448 in 1940.

Notices.

One hundred and seventeen "Informal," sixty-nine "Abatement" and fifty-eight for the "Provision of Ashbins" were served during the year.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

The types of visits are as follows :—

Bakehouses .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	49
Butchers' Premises .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	287
Complaints .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	305
Cowsheds .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	62
Drains (Tested, etc.) .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	48
Factories .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	59
Fried Fish Shops .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	205
Houses Disinfected .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	138
House Inspections .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Infectious Diseases .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	518
Ice Cream Premises .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	32
Moveable Dwellings .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	498
Offensive Trades .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	52
Outworkers Premises .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25
Other Food Premises .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13
Other Purposes .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	234
Overcrowding (revisits) .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	249
Pigkeeping .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	68
Slaughter-houses .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	170
Slaughter on Private Premises .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	288
Shelters (Spraying and Visits) .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	214
Trichinosis Enquiries .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
Rats and Mice Destruction Act .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14
Following up of Notices .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	720
Interviews .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	121
Various A.R.P. Visits .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	267
Urinals, etc. .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	39
Total						4,697

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

During the year 170 visits were paid to the Bacon Factory, Parkfield Road, and 69 to private premises, for the purpose of meat inspection. In addition 288 visits were made to Butchers' premises for the inspection of meat brought into the District from the Government Slaughterhouse, Wolverhampton, as a precautionary measure.

The number of pigs inspected was 2,447 at the Bacon Factory and 84 on private premises, a total in all of 2,531 pigs.

The total amount of meat, etc., condemned was :—

Pork (including Pigs heads and Offal)	2,635	lbs.
Beef	37	lbs.
Bacon	88	lbs.
Tin of Pork	6	lbs.
Tin of Tongue	6	lbs.
Tins of Milk (14 at 14½ ozs.)	12	lbs. 11 ozs.
Tin of Pilchards		6 ozs.
Eggs (Imported) 3 dozen		

		Tons.	cwts.	lbs.	ozs.
Total Weight	1	4	87

Offensive Trades.

There is only one licenced gut scraping establishment in this District and this is visited regularly.

Wet and Fried Fish Premises.

During the year 9 visits were made to wet fish shops, and 163 to fried fish shops for the purpose of cleanliness and the inspection of the prepared foods prior to frying.

Ice Cream Premises.

32 visits were made to these premises, but owing to war conditions many of the premises had no supplies delivered to them by the wholesalers.

Infectious Disease.

All cases of Infectious Disease are visited, the necessary investigations made, and disinfections carried out. Disinfection is carried into effect as speedily as possible, so as to ensure that the family concerned does not lose the use of a bedroom for one night.

138 Dwelling-houses were disinfected after cases of Infectious Disease—other than Tuberculosis—23 dwelling-houses were disinfected for reasons of Tuberculosis.

Interviews.

The number of persons that I personally interviewed in the office was 121, it will be easily understood that these take up a fair amount of time, but at the same time are a vital link between the Health Department, Owners and Tenants alike.

Provision of Ashbins.

The procuring of ashbins is difficult owing to the limited supply of steel for the purpose of manufacture for this commodity. Some owners have endeavoured and obtained ashbins for the properties on which Notices have been served, but others who have defaulted have had them supplied by the Council in accordance with the Public Health Act, 1936, Section 75. The number so supplied was 30 ashbins.

Air Raid Shelters.

On inspection of these premises it has been found that some of them have been used as public conveniences. Damage has been done—escape hatch covers broken, electric bulbs removed and taken away, hessian torn down from the sanitary conveniences, etc.

It does appear that some people do not desire protection in case of air raids, so therefore are prepared to jeopardise their own and the lives of others, otherwise they would not be so destructive.

Public Sanitary Convenience (Daisy Bank).

This convenience has been misused more or less ever since it was opened, what with the fouling of the stalls, floor, and the breaking of the fittings, the convenience does not appear to have been appreciated as much as the Council anticipated.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. H. PARKES,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

HOUSING.

Slum Clearance and Overcrowding.

Last year I mentioned that 156 houses which had been represented as unfit remained occupied, and I should like to renew my recommendation that the tenants of these houses should have special consideration when vacancies occurred in the Council's Housing Estates.

It is to be expected that the position as regards overcrowding will become progressively worse. There is no relief, as no new houses now become available. We must keep this problem in mind and be ready to take action at the earliest opportunity.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Our Inspectors carried out inspections of Cowsheds, Milkshops etc. Butchers' premises were also visited for the purpose of Meat inspection.

The County Council were responsible for carrying out the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Infectious Disease.

Notifications.

Pneumonia	.....	.....	.....	.....	81	(65)
Scarlet Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	63	(56)
Erysipelas	.....	.....	.....	.....	13	(11)
Diphtheria	.....	.....	.....	.....	91	(77)
Puerperal Pyrexia	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	(8)
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	(0)
Enteric Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	0	(0)

For particulars as to Hospital Treatment see Table VII on Page 23.

Immunisation against Diphtheria.

During 1941 a total of 646 children were immunised. 292 of these were aged under 5 years, and the remaining 354 were between the ages of 5 and 15 years.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

Two cases were notified and there was one death.

The Hospital treatment of Infectious Disease cost £1,971-0-1 and Puerperal Pyrexia cost £3-3-0.

Scabies.

Scabies became more prevalent during the year and 74 cases came to our notice as compared with 19 in the previous year. I am pleased to state that full provision has been made for the treatment of this condition at the Bayer Hall Clinic.

Tuberculosis.

Forty-nine cases were notified and there were 27 deaths.

NOTIFICATIONS.

Year.	Male.	Female.	Total.
1941	26	23	49
1940	20	11	31
1939	21	19	40
1938	22	23	45
1937	16	19	35

The interval between notification and death in the fatal cases is given below.

Year.	Within one month	From 1-3 mths.	From 3-6 mths.	From 6-12 mths.	From 1-2 yrs.	From 2-3 yrs.	From 4 yrs. and upwards.	Notified after death.	Total.
1941	5	1	5	2	2	1	3	8	27

Our Health Visitors made 28 first visits and 825 re-visits to tuberculosis cases during the year. These numbers are exactly the same as those for the previous year.

TABLE I.

TOTAL DEATHS, 1941.

	Causes of Death.	Males	Females	Total
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—
2	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—
3	Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
4	Whooping Cough	2	2	4
5	Diphtheria	3	—	3
6	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	11	9	20
7	Other forms of Tuberculosis	4	3	7
8	Syphilitic diseases	1	—	1
9	Influenza	5	2	7
10	Measles	1	—	1
11	Acute Poliomyelitis & Polio-enceph.	—	—	—
12	Acute infectious encephalitis	—	—	—
13	Cancer of buccal cavity & oesophagus (M.) uterus (F).	3	2	5
14	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	4	3	7
15	Cancer of breast	—	2	2
16	Cancer of all other sites	9	12	21
17	Diabetes	2	2	4
18	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	12	15	27
19	Heart disease	32	30	62
20	Other diseases of Circulatory System	3	3	6
21	Bronchitis	24	15	39
22	Pneumonia	23	14	37
23	Other Respiratory Diseases	5	4	9
24	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	3	—	3
25	Diarrhoea under 2 years	—	2	2
26	Appendicitis	—	—	—
27	Other Digestive diseases	3	2	5
28	Nephritis	4	3	7
29	Puerperal & Post-abort. Sepsis	—	1	1
30	Other Maternal Causes	—	3	3
31	Premature Birth	10	5	15
32	Congenital malnutrition, birth injury, infantile diseases	7	3	10
33	Suicide	2	1	3
34	Road Traffic Accident	2	1	3
35	Other Violent Causes	8	5	13
36	All other Causes	21	24	45
	TOTALS	204	168	372

TABLE II.
VITAL STATISTICS DURING 1932-1941.

YEAR.	Population Estimated to the Middle of each year.	Net Births.		Deaths belonging to District.			
		Number	Rate per 1,000 population	Under 1 year of age.	Rate per 1,000 births.	Number	Rate per 1,000 population
1932	25,840	464	18.2	48	103.4	307	12.05
1933	25,740	444	17.25	27	60.8	309	12.0
1934	26,060	462	18.3	19	41.1	269	10.3
1935	26,420	513	19.4	35	68.23	287	12.6
1936	27,460	547	19.9	47	85.92	317	13.38
1937	28,120	549	19.52	35	65.57	313	12.91
1938	28,850	620	21.49	37	59.67	333	13.38
1939	29,740	663	22.36	38	55.46	330	12.9
1940	29,960	606	20.22	34	56.12	356	14.96
1941	30,500	588	19.27	54	91.06	372	12.19
Average	27,869	545	19.59	37.4	68.73	319	12.66

TABLE III.

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY
FOR THE YEAR 1941.

	England and Wales.	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	COSELEY.
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.				
Live Births	14.2	14.7	16.4	19.27
Still Births	0.51	0.58	0.60	0.60
DEATHS.				
All causes	12.9	14.9	13.0	12.19
Typhoid & Para- typhoid Fevers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.06	0.07	0.06	0.13
Diphtheria	0.07	0.08	0.06	0.09
Influenza	0.19	0.17	0.20	0.22
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
Rates per 1,000 Births (Live and Still).				
Deaths under 1 year of age	59	71	56	91.06
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.1	7.5	4.6	0.06
MATERNAL MORTALITY				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.48	—	—	1.62
Others	1.75	—	—	4.88
Total	2.23	—	—	6.50
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.				
MATERNAL MORTALITY.				
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—	1.70
Others	—	—	—	5.10
Total	—	—	—	6.80

TABLE IV.

INFANT MORTALITY IN COSELEY DURING THE YEAR 1941.

DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS AGES UNDER ONE YEAR

Cause of Death.	Under one week		1—2 weeks		2—3 weeks		3—4 weeks		Total under one month		1—3 mths.		3—6 mths.		6—9 mths.		9—12 mths.		Total deaths under one year.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
T.B. Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abdominal T.B.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (not T.B.)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (All Forms)	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	3	3	2	1	1	1	—	7	8
Other Respiratory Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Convulsions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Congenital Debility	I	I	—	I	4	I	I	—	6	3	—	—	—	—	—	I	—	—	—	7 3
Marasmus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Prematurity	9	3	—	2	I	—	—	—	10	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10 5
Violence	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	I
TOTAL	11	4	—	5	5	1	I	—	17	10	5	3	6	4	3	3	1	2	32	22

TABLE V.

AGE-GROUPS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED IN 1941.

DISEASE,	AT THE AGES SPECIFIED—YEARS.												At all ages. M. F.
	Under 1 yr. M. F.	1-2 M. F.	2-3 M. F.	3-4 M. F.	4-5 M. F.	5-10 M. F.	10-15 M. F.	15-25 M. F.	25-45 M. F.	45-65 M. F.	65 & over. M. F.		
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	2	1	3	—	6	3	7	4	7	1	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	3	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	10	6	33	11	24	16	21	28	25	27	89	91	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	4	1	5	2	4	3	2	1	1	2	11	—	8
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	3	6
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	3	2	1	2	—
Whooping Cough	8	1	13	10	17	13	8	7	5	12	17	14	—
TOTALS	26	8	54	24	49	33	39	40	41	45	136	137	23
											20	7	15
											13	7	5
											431	352	

TABLE VI.

AGE GROUPS OF DEATHS FROM NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1941.

DISEASE.	AGES IN YEARS.										Total				
	Under 1 yr.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	Under 5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-35	35-45	45-65	65 & Over	M. F.
M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Respiratory	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Respiratory	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	7	8	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	1
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
TOTALS	8	10	2	1	2	2	1	—	—	13	4	2	1	3	4
														5	2
														10	2
														4	1
														2	3
														5	2
														44	28

TABLE VII.

DISEASES NOTIFIED (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS) DURING 1941.

DISEASE.	Total Cases Notified.	Admitted to Hospital.	TOTAL DEATHS.
Enteric Fever	—	—	—
Diphtheria	91	77	3
Scarlet Fever	63	16	—
Pneumonia	81	—	37
Erysipelas	13	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	—	—
TOTALS	253	94	41

TABLE VIII.

MONTHLY NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

MONTHS.	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Puerperal Pyrexia	Cerebro- Spinal Meningitis	Enteric Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	TOTALS
January	8	1	3	13	—	—	—	—	32	25	83
February	13	2	—	11	1	—	—	—	17	21	66
March	5	1	1	13	—	—	—	—	25	65	112
April	6	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	18	76	106
May	6	9	—	8	—	—	—	—	11	49	83
June	9	1	—	7	—	—	—	—	8	65	90
July	15	5	—	5	1	—	—	—	5	29	61
August	6	3	—	2	—	1	—	—	5	7	24
September	3	7	4	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	18
October	6	7	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	15	32
November	8	13	1	13	1	—	—	—	4	30	70
December	6	12	2	3	1	—	—	—	1	14	39
TOTALS	91	63	13	81	3	2	7	—	126	398	784

TABLE IX.
NEW CASES AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1941.

AGE GROUPS.	NEW CASES						DEATHS						TOTAL DEATHS.	
	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary				
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
0—1 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
1—5	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
5—10	—	1	1	1	2	1	—	—	1	1	1	
10—15	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
15—20	—	2	2	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	
20—25	—	5	7	—	1	5	8	3	4	—	3	
25—35	—	8	2	—	1	8	3	2	3	—	2	
35—45	—	1	3	—	—	1	3	1	—	2	1	
45—55	—	4	1	—	—	4	1	1	1	3	1	
55—65	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	
65 & Over	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	2	
TOTALS	...	21	17	5	6	26	23	11	9	4	3	15	12	

TABLE X.

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS DURING THE YEARS 1936-1941.

YEAR.	DEATHS.				TOTAL DEATHS.	
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1936	10	7	—	1	10	8
1937	8	7	—	—	8	7
1938	8	4	1	3	9	7
1939	10	11	2	—	12	11
1940	14	1	1	4	15	5
1941	11	9	4	3	15	12

TABLE XI.

CANCER DEATHS—AGE GROUPS AND PARTS AFFECTED.

	1-15 years.		15-25 years.		25-35 years.		35-45 years.		45-65 years.		65 yrs. & over		Total.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Tongue, Lip, Mouth, etc.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—
Gullet	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Stomach	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	3	4	4
Bowel or Abdomen	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2
Rectum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—
Breast	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Lungs	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
Womb or Ovaries	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2
Ext. Genitals	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Liver, Kidney etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Bones	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Heart	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	4	2	6	5
TOTALS	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	7	11	7	7	16	19

COSELEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR

1941.

Printed by order of the Coseley Education Committee.

COSELEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Chairman :—

COUNCILLOR J. A. GRANGE (Died—March, 1941).
COUNCILLOR J. NORTON (Elected—April, 1941).

Vice-Chairman :

COUNCILLOR J. NORTON (Until—April, 1941).
T. B. DAVIES, Esq. (Elected—April, 1941).

Councillor E. Allen	}	as members of the Council
„ W. T. Bayliss		
„ G. Cox		
„ W. Elwell		
„ I. Flavell		
„ W. J. Gough		
„ H. Griffiths		
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„ J. E. Pugh		
„ J. W. Smout		
„ G. W. H. Turton		
„ Dr. C. H. Waddell		
Miss M. Lathe, C.C. and Mrs. E. M. C. Waddell	}	Experienced in Elementary and Secondary Education for Girls.
Coun. J. H. Hartland and Mr. T. B. Davies		As persons specially acquainted with the needs of Council Schools.
Coun. W. J. Gough and Alderman A. Lathe, J.P., C.C.		As persons experienced in Secondary and Technical Education.

Secretary :—

FRED. J. C. POOLE, B.Æs. L., F.R.G.S.

COSELEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

School Medical Officer

FOR THE YEAR 1941.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Coseley Education Committee.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I wish to present the following brief report on the work of the School Medical Service for the year 1941.

It was not possible to complete the inspection of all the children in the Routine Groups. In the time at our disposal and with the Staff available it was felt that the best policy was to maintain the revise and special inspections in order to find those children who were likely to require Medical or Dental attention. I feel that our efforts in this direction have been reasonably successful.

The revise inspections were carried out in the schools and a weekly consultation session was held at the Bayer Hall Clinic. Parents were welcome to bring their children to this session for inspection and the teachers could also refer cases of suspected illness or defect.

I should like to thank the Teachers and other Officials of the Education Committee for their help and co-operation and to acknowledge the efficient assistance I have had from all my colleagues in the School Medical and Dental Departments.

I remain,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ALEXANDER J. WATT.

Staff.

The School Medical Staff is as follows :—

School Medical Officer and Medical Officer of Health :

ALEXANDER J. WATT, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Ophthalmic Surgeon—Part-time :

H. CAMPBELL ORR, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.F.P.S.

School Dentists—Part-time :

W. G. WEBSTER, L.D.S., Eng. }
C. H. MERRY, L.D.S., B'ham. }
B. H. MOORE, L.D.S., B'ham. }

School Nurse :

MISS M. T. RUSSELL.

Senior Clerk and Dental Attendant :

MISS J. D. TURTON.

Junior Clerk :

MISS A. J. FLAVELL.

Principal Statistics.

Number of Departments under the Coseley Education Authority.

There are 10 Blocks of Schools comprising 17 Departments.

Voluntary Schools included in the above.

Infants 3, Junior 2.

Accommodation.

Provided Schools 3,891. Non-Provided 1,006. Total 4,897.

Average Attendance for the Year ended March 31st. 1941.

3540.7.

Number of Children on School Registers on March 31st. 1941.

4126.

Total Accommodation :—Infants 1,467, Juniors, 1,510. Juniors and Infants combined 2,977. Senior 1,920. Total 4,897.

Medical Inspection.

Routine.

A routine inspection was carried out in 520 children and attention was directed to the examination of Entrants and Leavers. In addition to these, 997 children were seen at special and revise inspections.

	Age.		Number.
“ Entrants ”	(5—6)	....	188
“ Intermediates ”	(8—9)	....	73
“ Leavers ”	(12—13)	....	294
			555
Other Routine Inspections		....	35
			590
Revise Inspections. (Various Ages)		....	528

Findings.

Treatment was required in 109 routine cases and 138 children were placed under observation. The following is a summary of the conditions for which treatment was recommended :—

Defective Vision	....	....	....	22
External Eye Disease	....	....	....	7
Defective Nutrition	....	....	....	14
Dental Caries and Sepsis	....	....	....	26
Chronic Tonsils and Adenoids	....	....	....	2
Other Nose and Throat Conditions	....	....	....	8
Otitis Media	....	....	....	3
Valvular Disease of Heart	....	....	....	1
Chorea	....	....	....	2
Bronchial Catarrh	....	....	....	4
Scabies	....	....	....	4
Skin Diseases	....	....	....	7
Other Conditions	....	....	....	9

Nutrition.

I am pleased to state that there was no evidence of an increase of malnutrition. Over 95% of the Coseley children participate in the Milk-in-School Scheme, and steps are taken to ensure that necessitous cases are recommended for free milk. Needless to say that milk is of special value now that other foods are less easy to obtain, and no doubt the Ministry of Food will take steps to maintain the present satisfactory supply now available in the Schools.

Visual Defects.

Mr. Campbell Orr continued his good work in the Eye Clinic and the following is a summary of the refraction and re-examinations carried out.

TABLE A.
Ophthalmic Clinic.

No. of Eye Sessions	....	....	....	....	....	....	23
No. of Refractions carried out	....	....	....	....	....	....	168
No. of Glasses Prescribed	....	....	....	....	....	....	140
No. of Re-attendances	....	....	....	....	....	....	174
Total Attendances	....	....	....	....	....	....	342

Nose and Throat Defects.

While we have no official Scheme for the operative treatment of tonsils and adenoids we have assisted parents to obtain special advice at the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton, and at the Guest Hospital, Dudley.

There is a good deal of delay owing to the number of cases on the waiting list at these Hospitals, and I should welcome any arrangement the Education Committee might make to expedite operative treatment.

We are extremely obliged to the Hospital Authorities for the kind way they receive our children and no doubt everything possible is being done. It is necessary, however, that priority should be given to urgent cases.

Uncleanliness.

I am pleased to state that an additional School Nurse was appointed towards the end of the year and took up duty on 1st. January, 1942.

I should like to congratulate the Committee for the action they have taken and I say that we would now have found it quite impossible to tackle the work which has increased enormously during the past few years.

Scabies.

The number of cases coming to our notice during the year was 74 in comparison with the figure of 19 in the previous year.

At the time of writing full provision had been made for the treatment of Scabies in patients of all ages at the Bayer Hall Clinic.

Arrangements have also been made for the disinfection of clothing and bedding.

The School Nurse and Health Visitors share equally in the performance of the cleansing operations.

Minor Ailments.

Table B. gives details of the work carried out at the Bayer Hall Clinic.

TABLE B.

		Boys.	Girls.	Total.
No. of Children attended	....	228	168	396
No. of Children treated	....	221	159	380
Re-attendances	....	397	354	751
Total attendances and re-attendances	....	625	522	1,147
Defects Found	....	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Ringworm :—				
Scalp	....	5	2	7
Body	....	—	2	2
Scabies	....	12	6	18
Impetigo	....	44	32	76
Other Skin Diseases	....	31	12	43
Minor Eye Defects	....	36	22	58
Minor Ear Defects	....	5	5	10
Miscellaneous (e.g. Minor Injuries, Burns and Scalds, other Septic Conditions)	....	89	78	167
Totals	....	222	159	381

Consultation Clinic.

This Clinic was held each Friday morning and the figures of attendance are given in table C..

TABLE C.

		Boys.	Girls.	Totals.
No of first attendances	....	82	104	186
No. of re-attendances	....	239	296	535
Totals	....	321	400	721

Dental Defects.

The School Dental Surgeon has kindly supplied the following particulars in Table D.

TABLE D.

No. of Sessions in Schools	....	....	....	....	....	6
No. of Routines Inspected	....	....	....	....	....	866
No. of Specials Inspected	....	....	....	....	....	312
Total of Routines and Specials	....	....	....	....	....	1,178
No. found to require Treatment	....	....	....	....	....	1,153
No. actually Treated	....	....	....	....	....	1,146
Percentage of acceptances	....	....	....	....	....	99.39%
Total No. of Notices sent to Parents	....	....	....	....	....	1,153
No. of Anaesthetic Sessions held	....	....	....	....	....	11
No. of Children received Anaesthetic	....	....	....	....	....	125
No. of Dental Cases Paid for	....	....	....	....	....	730
Amount Received	....	....	....	....	....	£18 5s. od.

Following Up Work.

The following is an outline of the work carried out by the School Nurse.

Visits to Schools for " Routine Inspections "	57
Other Visits to Schools	69
Domiciliary Visits	298
Minor Ailments Clinic	142
Dental Clinic	12
Ophthalmic Clinic Sessions	23

Arrangements for Treatment.

I should again like to thank the Officials of the Royal Hospital Wolverhampton, the Guest Hospital, Dudley and the Tuberculosis Officers at Dudley and Wolverhampton for their kind co-operation during the year.

Infectious Diseases.

In Table E. will be found details of the cases notified to the Medical Officer of Health and a return is also given in Table F. of the cases coming to our notice through the Schools.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The number of School Children immunised during the year was 354. The response was disappointing. At the time of writing, it was estimated that 17.1% of children between 1—5 years and 17.9% of those between the ages of 5 and 15 had been protected. At the present time there is a full attendance at our weekly immunisation session at the Bayer Hall Clinic and it is also occasionally necessary to hold one or two additional sessions per week, so there is a definite improvement in the situation.

TABLE E.

Infectious Diseases Notified during 1941 to the Medical Officer of Health.

5—15 years.

	YEARS.					
	5—10		10—15		Totals.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Measles	89	91	3	7	92	98
Whooping Cough	17	14	1	—	18	14
Diphtheria	16	16	12	7	28	23
Scarlet Fever	12	13	6	11	18	24
Pneumonia	1	2	1	—	2	2
Non-Pulmonary T.B.	1	1	—	2	1	3
Pulmonary T.B.	—	1	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningoccal Meningitis	1	1	—	—	1	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals		137	139	23	27	160 166
Totals for year 1940		76	71	17	26	93 97

Non-Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Table F. gives the totals of the weekly returns from the Schools.

TABLE F.

List of Infectious Diseases Notified by Head Teachers from each School.

School.	Scar-let Fever	Diph-theria	Meas-sles.	German Meas-sles.	Whoop-ing Cough	Chic-ken Pox	Mumps	Skin Dis-eases
Daisy Bank Junior ...	2	—	2	1	—	4	4	1
Daisy Bank Infants ...	2	—	29	1	2	20	27	2
Mt. Pleasant Senior ...	2	3	1	1	—	—	—	7
Mt. Pleasant Junior ...	4	3	33	—	4	3	1	—
Hurst Hill Junior ...	9	3	26	1	7	1	4	15
Hurst Hill Infants ...	4	2	44	—	16	6	13	3
Broad Lanes Senior ...	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	11
Broad Lanes Infants ...	1	—	43	4	6	3	3	4
Lanesfield Junior ...	5	—	19	5	17	14	8	11
Parkfield Infants ...	4	1	46	6	—	45	18	2
Christ Church Junior ...	3	2	9	—	1	16	19	7
Christ Church Infants ...	2	4	58	2	5	42	31	8
St. Mary's Junior ...	—	2	5	—	—	1	2	1
St. Mary's Infants ...	1	—	20	1	1	5	19	3
West Coseley Infants ...	1	2	13	1	15	1	7	4
Manor Senior Boys' ...	—	3	1	—	—	2	—	3
Manor Senior Girls' ...	2	3	3	—	—	2	1	4
Totals ...	44	29	352	23	74	165	157	86
Totals for year 1941 ...	23	25	110	51	74	110	18	40

Physical Training.

I am including below the Report so kindly supplied by the Organisers for Physical Training.

Annual General Report on Physical Training 1941-1942.

In presenting our third war-time annual report, an examination of the present position of physical training in schools must, of necessity, include observations upon the disorganisation created by staff problems, shortage of apparatus, and clothes rationing.

The task of discovering suitable measures to ensure that the work may proceed as normally as possible will give scope to all concerned to show their enterprise and ingenuity.

Staffing.

Many changes have taken place amongst both men and women. Whilst some schools have been unaffected, others have suffered very seriously.

Apparatus.

POR TABLE APPARATUS.

It was most unfortunate that the sum of £200 included in estimates for the purpose of physical training apparatus was withdrawn at the outbreak of war. Lack of this apparatus creates limitations in the scope of the work and a resultant falling off of interest amongst the older scholars.

The vaulting box supplied to Mount Pleasant Evening Institute and the benches at Manor Senior Boys' School are being put to good use.

SMALL APPARATUS.

This is now in short supply and the position is certain to deteriorate further. Improvisation will become increasingly necessary. The replacement of balls may prove impossible, but old cases can be stuffed and patched, and quoits and "beanless" beanbags make useful substitutes.

Braids are now difficult to obtain, but short lengths of old braid can be utilised.

Further details of these improvisations can be obtained from the Organisers.

The life of ropes will be prolonged if kept dry, and that of the case balls if kept dry and well inflated.

It is preferable that, when stored, cocoa-nut fibre mats should be hung up. When used outside they should be placed on dry patches of the playground.

Clothing and Footwear.

The difficulty of procuring gymnastic shoes, (which are more readily available to Local Authorities than to individual purchasers) and the inability of parents to provide the necessary coupons even when the shoes and money are available, is having and will continue to have, a retarding effect upon the work. The latter factor applies in a lesser degree to the provision of suitable clothing for girls.

Circular 1556 and 1556a of the Board of Education, deals with arrangements with the Board of Trade for the supply of coupon free clothing and/or foot wear, up to the limit of 10 coupons per pupil per annum, the equipment to remain the property of the Local Education Authority and to be lent to the children.

This concession is of no help in alleviating the position indicated as it is not the policy of the Education Committee to supply this equipment. If, however, representation could be made through the Board of Education to the Board of Trade, recommending that the arrangements be extended to allow the Local Education Authorities to purchase such equipment, but to charge scholars desiring the use of it for its hire, then the initial expenditure incurred by the Local Education Authority would be recoverable.

If such an agreement could be reached, then the committee might be asked to consider the advisability of inaugurating such a scheme in Coseley.

General Survey.

Nursery Classes.

Children of nursery age have been re-admitted to Infant Departments. When classes are composed entirely of children of this age the physical training taught, though of a very free and informal character, should form a useful introduction to the Infant Syllabus.

Infant Departments.

In these departments staffing has remained reasonably constant and the standard of work has, on the whole, been maintained.

Certain departments in the past provided a supply of shoes for physical training, but their use was, quite understandably, discontinued during the period when air-raid warnings were an almost daily occurrence. It is felt, however, that unless a similar state of emergency re-obtains, the habit of changing should be re-continued as long as shoes are available.

Junior Departments.

Some schools must offer considerable disappointment in that owing to factors often beyond their control, the standard of work achieved falls short of that normally expected from Junior children.

Other schools less unfortunately placed have not relaxed their efforts to retain this important subject in its rightful place.

Senior Departments.

GIRLS. Work in these departments has been seriously affected by illness amongst the staff and by numerous changes of personnel. Teachers unversed with modern method have found themselves responsible for the subject. Their difficulties are appreciated and help has been given to them.

These continuous changes have had an unsettling effect upon the girls.

Boys. Staff changes have not been as great as might have been expected, and the work has therefore suffered little. So far as clothing restrictions allow, changing for physical training is now attempted in all departments. This, together with the stimulus gained by teachers attending recent courses, and the installation of benches in one department have resulted in a new enthusiasm which merits favourable comment.

The Board of Education has asked for observations on the effects of the war on the physical and mental welfare of the children.

Any opinions stated here have been formed during visits to schools, and are not based upon technical survey which would involve the compilation of anthropometric statistics, examination of calorific and vitamin contents of dietary, etc.

From the Physical View-Point

Generally speaking we have noticed no marked deterioration in the physical development of the children.

Poor posture is, perhaps, more prevalent, and this may be attributed to a lack of energy due to unsuitable diet, or to the lack of mental alertness, rather than to any slackening in demand on the part of the teacher.

The effects of mal-nutrition will be more easily detected by the class teacher than by a casual observer. In the physical training lesson it may be evinced by a lack of energy and an inability to keep warm in cold weather, aggravated in many cases by inadequate clothing.

At the present time the physical condition of the class should be taken into consideration by the teacher when deciding upon the advisability of taking a lesson out of doors in inclement weather. The teacher should be more than ever on the alert to recognise symptoms of fatigue.

The tendency towards a lowering of the standard of cleanliness creates a feeling of disquiet, in view of the known dangers of dirt infection etc. under war conditions. The "Cleanliness Drives" in schools have helped to counteract the deplorable position in homes where parental supervision of personal hygiene is lacking.

Owing to the absence of both parents at work, the position of many senior girls now faced with full domestic responsibility entailing in some cases the care of several young children, is making a considerable demand upon their physical reserves. The time left to them for personal hygiene is short.

From the Mental View-Point.

To those in positions of responsibility certain manifestations of mental disturbances are apparent in a lack of self-discipline, concentration and serious application to the work in hand.

A rigidly enforced discipline in school cannot compensate altogether for the absence of normal discipline in the home.

This lack of home discipline, together with a feeling of insecurity, broken routine, and unwise discussion of war topics within the hearing of the children, contribute towards the too prevalent lack of good manners and consideration for others, and the lack of appreciation and respect for amenities provided for the public benefit. The children are not exempt from the general feeling of restlessness associated with life in war-time.

Although Physical Training cannot offer a solution to all these problems, we suggest, at the risk of being accused of being old-fashioned in method, that a stricter claim on quick response to commands, smartness and exactness in both position and movement, and a demand for full attention and maximum physical effort, could be applied with results which would help in the alleviation of the lethargic or indisciplined attitude of some classes.

Courses. (WOMEN).

PHYSICAL TRAINING. A course for Senior and Junior teachers held during the Christmas term was abandoned after 4 sessions owing to lack of support.

DANCING. 6 Saturday Courses from 10-30 a.m. to 3-30 p.m. were held from January to March at the Dudley Technical College.

Classes were held in the hall and the gymnasium, and the teachers had a choice of activities including Scandinavian Dances, Folk Dances from Many Lands, English National Dances, English Sword Dancing, and English Country Dancing.

Demonstrations by children and students of different types of dancing were a feature of each course.

Attendances varying from 2 to 6 courses were made by 7 teachers.

Games.

2 teachers put in an 100% attendance at an eleven weeks course held in Bilston during the latter half of the Summer and the first half of the Autumn terms.

Recreative Physical Training.

10 weeks courses in Recreative Physical Training were held in the Spring term in Wolverhampton, Dudley and Darlaston. 5 teachers and 2 old-scholars attended the centre which was most convenient for them.

Service of Youth.

Recreative Physical Training was included amongst other activities in connection with Old Scholars Clubs attached to Senior Schools, and assistance has been given by our taking classes if requested.

Evening Institute Classes.

Classes for both Boys and Girls were held under the leadership of Mr. Bradley and Miss D. G. Williams respectively.

We should like to record how much we appreciate in these difficult times the continued support and co-operation, in spite of their ever increasing responsibilities, of everyone in the Educational Services.

18th. February, 1942.

(Signed) E. A. WHITE.

G. HEYHOE.

Organisers of Physical Training.

Mental Deficiency.

I am obliged to Miss Tosh, the County Mental Welfare Officer for the following Report :—

Report on the work carried out for Coseley Education Committee during the year 1941.

All work previously undertaken for Coseley Education Committee has been continued during the year.

Forty supervision visits have been paid to the homes and interviews on behalf of all children on the books, who number fifteen. Three children were in residential special schools, one has been sent to a training institution through the court, and one notified on leaving a special school for further institutional care which will be provided by the County Council. Seven were classified as educable in special schools, four have become 16 years old during the year. Two under 7 attend the Occupation Centre at Innisfallen, Bradley, where excellent training for them is available in premises provided by the County Council. One child has died. Seven defectives from the area are attending the Occupation Centre. Much help and encouragement has been given to the work by the Centre Committee on which Coseley is represented.

Several changes have been made by the war in social life which have added to the difficulty of the work of supervision. Mothers have shopping difficulties, some mothers are employed on war work, from which arises the problem of arranging for their children to be under supervision after school hours before the mother's return from work. For children who have left school it is easier to obtain employment, and wages for juveniles are higher than formerly. In all these situations our visitor endeavours to give parents wise guidance for the best welfare of their defective children, and her visits and help have been warmly welcomed.

The importance of special care and training for the whole group of the retarded children grows no less in these critical times. They form possibly 15% of the school population and must therefore have a considerable part to play in the post-war community. A lecture on their needs was given at Bilston by Miss Ruth Thomas, Educational Psychologist to the Central Association for Mental Welfare, to which all teachers in Coseley were invited. We welcome the decision of the Coseley Education Committee to use the services temporarily of a psychologist to help in surveying the extent of the problem of the retarded children in Coseley.

The Association would like to express its appreciation of the continued co-operation of the Coseley Education Committee in work which is bound to increase in importance in these difficult times.

(Signed) F. H. TOSH,
Secretary,
Staffordshire Association for
Mental Welfare.

Blind and Deaf Children.

One blind child and 3 deaf children were in Special Schools.

Statistics.

The tables required by the Board of Education are appended.

Conclusion.

I should like to return the best thanks of the School Medical Department to the Teachers and other Officials of the Education Committee for the valuable assistance they have given us throughout the year.

TABLE I.

Medical Inspection of Children attending Public Elementary Schools.

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

(1) Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups :—

Entrants	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	118
Second Age Group	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	73
Third Age Group	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	294
							Total	485
(2) Number of other Routine Inspections	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	35
						Grand Total	....	520

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections 997

TABLE II.

Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the Year in the Routine Age Groups..

Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly) (subnormal)		D (Bad)	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
520	24	4.61	462	88.84	34	6.35	—	—

TABLE III.

GROUP I.—TREATMENT OF MINOR AILMENTS (excluding Uncleanliness).

Total Number of Defects treated or under treatment during the year under the Authority's Scheme 381

GROUP III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

Received Operative Treatment	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Received other forms of Treatment	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
						Total number treated	....

GROUP II.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

	Under the Authority's Scheme
Errors of Refraction (including squint)	168
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.)	14
Total	182
	Under the Authority's Scheme
No. of Children for whom spectacles were	
(a) Prescribed	140
(b) Obtained	138

TABLE IV.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

(1) Number of Children inspected by the Dentist :—

(a) Routine age-groups :—

Age.	Number.
5	127
6	112
7	180
8	126
9	231
10	—
11	—
12	—
13	—
14	—
	Total
	866

(b) Specials ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	312
(c) Total (Routine and Specials)	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,178

(2) Number found to require treatment	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,153
(3) Number actually treated	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,146
(4) Attendances made by children for treatment	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,161

(5) Half-days devoted to :—										
Inspection	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
Treatment	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	139
									Total	....
										145
(6) Fillings :—										
Permanent Teeth	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	358
Temporary Teeth	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	9
									Total	....
										367
(7) Extractions :—										
Permanent Teeth	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	470
Temporary Teeth	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,463
									Total	....
										1,933
(8) Administrations of general anaesthetics for extractions	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	125
(9) Other Operations :—										
Permanent Teeth	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	225
Temporary Teeth	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	529
									Total	....
										754

TABLE V.

UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

(i) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurse or other authorised persons	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
(ii) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses or other authorised persons	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	6,375
(iii) Number of <i>individual</i> children found unclean	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	782
(iv) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—										
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	—
(b) Under the School Attendance Byelaws	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	6

TABLE VI.

BLIND AND DEAF CHILDREN.

Number of totally or almost totally blind and deaf children who are **not** at the present time receiving education suitable for their special needs. The return should relate to all such children including evacuees in the Authority's area.

	At a Public Elementary School	At an institution other than a Special School	At no School or Institution	Total not receiving suitable education
Blind Children	—	—	I	I
Deaf Children	—	—	—	—

MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

Total number of children notified during the year ended 31st. December, 1941, by the Local Education Authority to the Local Mental Deficiency Authority, under the Mental Deficiency (Notification of Children) Regulations, 1928

2

